

MS pastor Joe Young named to SBC panel

NASHVILLE (BP) — Mississippi bivocational pastor Joe Young is among the appointees that Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Executive Committee President Frank S. Page has named to a 21-member Bivocational and Small Church Advisory Council to serve through

YOUNG

2017, SBC LIFE reported in its fall issue.

Young is pastor of Calvary Chapel, Parchman, and an educator in Charleston.

Calling the headquarters of the Southern Baptist Convention, Young named the council to the Executive Committee and other SBC entity leaders gain greater understanding of and appreciation for the perspectives of churches served by bivocational pastors and churches with Sunday school attendance of 125 or less.

The council will provide information, insight, and counsel to Executive Committee staff relative to the special needs and concerns of Southern Baptist bivocational and small church leaders, and it will serve as a bridge to pastors who often lack the flexibility or resources to participate in SBC meetings, SBC LIFE reported.

The council will neither launch nor execute ministries; its purpose is consultation, communication and cooperation. Members represent a cross-section of the country and reflect the SBC's cultural diversity.

The Bivocational and Small Church Advisory Council joins a list of such councils Page has named during his tenure, including groups addressing the Hispanic, African American, Asian American, and multi-ethnic communities among Southern Baptists.

A unanimous vote

California Baptists drop church after homosexual tilt

FRESNO, Calif. (BP and local reports) — The California Southern Baptist Convention (CSBC) Executive Board voted Sept. 11 to withdraw fellowship from a church whose pastor has publicly stated he believes homosexual acts are not always sinful.

In a unanimous vote of the 35 members present (six were absent), the board voted to withdraw fellowship from New Heart Community Church in La Mirada, Ca., for holding beliefs contrary to the Baptist Faith & Message.

Article XVIII of the BF&M defines marriage as "the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime." Article XV states, "Christians should oppose... all forms of sexual immorality, including adultery, homosexuality, and pornography."

Board chairman Montia Setzler sent word to Cortez of the board's decision on Sept. 12.

Setzler, pastor of Magnolia Church in Riverside, Calif., said the board was acting as the "convention ad interim" in taking the action. Article VI, Section 1 of

the CSBC Constitution gives the Executive Board the "authority to act for the Convention between its sessions."

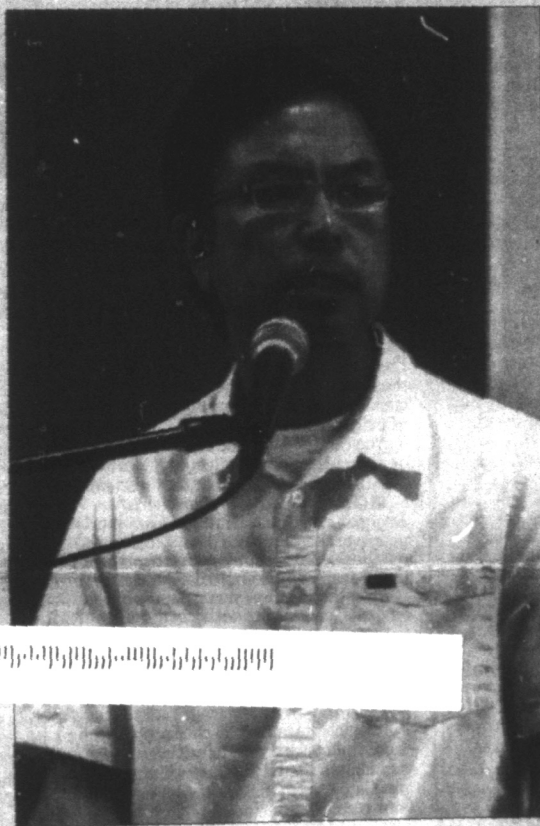
This is the first time in 74 years of existence that the convention has withdrawn fellowship from a church, Setzler said. He added that the CSBC once opted not to receive Cooperative Program gifts from a church.

New Heart first made headlines when pastor Danny Cortez told the congregation in a February sermon he had "changed [his] stance on homosexuality." The sermon, which Cortez posted on YouTube in March, has been viewed more than 46,000 times.

Cortez, who changed his position after his 15-year-old son went public with his (the son's) homosexuality, was subsequently invited to a White House reception by U.S. President Barack Obama.

In a letter to a prominent gay blogger last spring, Cortez wrote, "The church just voted two Sundays ago, on May 18,

see CALIFORNIA on p. 6



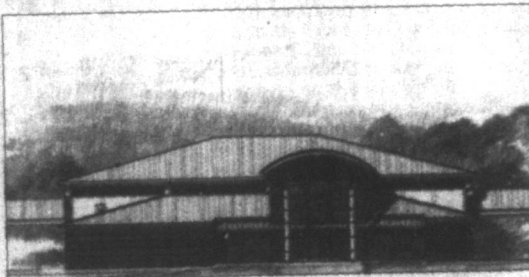
CORTEZ

Groundbreaking for SBC's largest BSU scheduled for Oct. 7 at MSU

MISSISSIPPI STATE, Ms. (Special) — Mississippi State University (MSU) students will find relief from Baptist Student Union (BSU) growing pains when they break ground Oct. 7 on a multimillion-dollar building located closer to the center of campus.

At 14,540 square feet, the new building will be the largest BSU facility in the Southern Baptist Convention.

Michael Ball said space challenges have existed all 14 years he has served as the campus BSU director. "BSU activities and involvement always followed the growth in student numbers. The current building was built in 1961 when student



enrollment was 5,575. We expanded while I was a student here in 1984 when enrollment was 12,325. Today, enrollment exceeds 20,000."

The current building is located at 283 East Lee Boule-

vard, across the street from the Campus Book Mart and the Wesley Foundation. The new BSU building will be

see BSU on p. 6

Inside this issue

Directions...

Sunday School
Lessons...

Editorial...

Bibliography...

How to Become
a Christian...

Revivals &
Homecomings...

Just for the Record...

Classifieds... 6



From the editor

WILLIAM PERKINS

Planning for failure

Imagine that you sign up for the newest and hottest diet program available. You really want to lose weight. Your many efforts at self-discipline have failed. Your self-esteem is low and your weight is high, because of the mistakes you've made in the past. You need someone to show you the pathway to achieve your aspirations. You need a support group to encourage you and hold you accountable. You need to know you are not alone.

You're sitting at the first meeting of your new diet program, anxious to know the secrets of losing weight. You catch your breath as the instructor begins. This is the night for which you've been waiting for so long.

Much to your surprise, the instructor spends less than two minutes on how to lose weight and then announces, "So much for that. Since we will fail — and we all know we will — we're going to spend the remainder of the meeting talking about how to make the most of that failure."

Would you be dumbfounded? Would you not be bewildered and indignant? Would you want to confront the instructor after the close of the meeting?

"Listen," the instructor continues, "we all know it's better to lose weight and keep it off, but you also have to know what to do when you give in to temptation. Remember, you will fail. Take it from me. You'll be better off knowing how to manage your failures."

Needless to say, most of us wouldn't be back for the second meeting. Most likely, we'd get busy exposing such a disgraceful con job and banishing it from our community. Yet there is just such a flagrant scam currently being perpetrated right under our noses. It's called childhood sex education.

"Yes, we know abstinence is the best and most desirable course," even proponents admit, "but we all know children are going to fail, so we must teach them how to manage their failures. Take it from us. They're better off this way."

Not necessarily. The many abstinence-only programs for young people that are in place around the country, including Southern Baptists' own True Love Waits, are proving the lie behind

the basic concept of childhood sex education. Namely, that children must be educated on and prepared for premarital sex.

The Best Friends Foundation headquartered in Washington D.C., was chartered by Elayne Bennett, wife of former U.S. Secretary of Education Bill Bennett, and focuses on Washington neighborhoods where the teen pregnancy rates are among the highest in the nation.

The program teaches girls to respect themselves and shows them how to plan for a bright future that includes complete abstinence from sexual activities. There are no excuses or fallback plans allowed. Only success is taught.

The girls attend classes on topics such as "refusal skills" when approached for sex. The differences between love and sex are explained in age-appropriate ways. The girls are individually mentored by successful women who volunteer to serve as role models.

The girls are treated to a weekly aerobics class to build self-esteem about their physical appearance and develop healthy habits. They are given a special T-shirt and gym bag to signify their commitment to the ideals of the Best Friends program. There is a mother-daughter recognition luncheon, at which diamond pins are awarded for program graduates.

The results? An independent study found that in one area where 26% of teen girls become pregnant each year, only four percent of the Best Friends girls were sexually active and a mere 1.1% became pregnant. Many of the Best Friends girls have gone on to attend college, the study reported.

Abstinence works, and abstinence-only programs work. We don't hear much about that from the news and entertainment complexes in this country, because it doesn't fit their progressive/liberal narrative of limitless sex for everyone without consequences. Nonetheless, Christians should get behind these programs that provide girls and boys with a safety net from the self-defeating, lifelong cycle of failure that begins with teen sex.

We wouldn't settle for less in a diet program. How much more important are our young people?

Will you Engage in October?

For too many church leaders, one of the most challenging areas of mission is engaging our people in evangelism. We can point to many causes for this, but many times the lack of evangelistic effectiveness goes back to leaders not providing a clear pathway forward and simple first steps in sharing the Gospel.

The North American Mission Board (NAMB) pastors' task force highlighted these challenges and their findings in their report in May. To read the report, visit namb.net/baptisttaskforce/. Also see a related video at namb.net/taskforcevideo/ and a Baptist Press story at bpnews.net/42559/pastors-task-force-releases-report-on-declining-baptisms.

Turning around our evangelism and baptism decline will take some serious soul-searching and a long-term approach, but there are also some things every pastor can do right away to rekindle Southern Baptists' evangelistic fervor.

■ **Train everyone to use the 3 Circles:** *Life Conversation Guide*. Teach every person engaged in your church how to share the Gospel through the 3 Circles presentation, which can be viewed at namb.net/video/3circlesguide/.

While there are many evangelism tools out there, we've seen 3 Circles work well in numerous settings across North America. It is simple, easy and transferable. We've already seen pastors like current SBC President Ronnie Floyd and former SBC presidents Johnny Hunt and Bryant Wright training their entire congregations on 3 Circles on Sunday mornings.

You can download the app for free on IOS or Android platforms, order the guides from NAMB directly, or download the presentation.

■ **Call your people to share Christ on Engage24 on Oct. 14.** If you prepare your people to share and give them a tool to present the Gospel, the final step is to set them up for success by setting a date for action.

Over the last three years, Baptist college students have taken one day in the fall to share the Gospel with at least one person in their sphere of influence through Engage24. I invite you and your church to join with them in engaging lost people with the Gospel on Oct. 14.

Imagine the impact on your people, your church and your community if everyone in your church shared the Gospel like August Gate Church in St. Louis, for example (vimeo.com/97572054).



Guest opinion
with Kevin Ezell



THE LORD'S WORK — North American Mission Board (NAMB) church planter Patrick Coats (right) baptizes Andrew Fellas, a new member of Miami's Kingdom Covenant Church, where Coats is pastor. (BP photo courtesy of NAMB)

The people in your church will grow by preparing for Engage24. They will learn to depend on prayer and your church will gain a collective momentum that can't come from any other kind of engagement.

Our goal at the North American Mission Board is to see 15,000 churches planted in 10 years, but plants don't just happen. They require disciples who leverage their lives for the Gospel, and disciples are made only when believers sow the Gospel in the lives of others.

As a church leader, will you join me in challenging your church to live the Gospel at home, at work and at play? Will you utilize October as a time of vision-casting for your church to engage the world with the Gospel?

Thank you for your life in Christ and your ministry on His behalf. May God continue to bless you and your church as we continue to live life on mission together.

Ezell is president of the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board in Alpharetta, Ga.

The Baptist Record

Editor
William H. Perkins Jr.
wperkins@mbcb.org

Associate Editor
Tony Martin
martin@mbcb.org

Layout/Design
Megan Young
myoung@mbcb.org

Advertising
Emily Jones
ejones@mbcb.org

Circulation Manager
Brenda Quattlebaum
bquattlebaum@mbcb.org

Editor Emeritus
Don McGregg

Baptist Record
Advisory Committee:
Dwayne Parker, Flora
Paul Sims, Pontotoc
Barry Burns, Terry
Carl White, Meridian
Billie Buckley, Petal
Russell Mord, Sturgis

Postmaster:
Send changes of
address to: The Baptist
Record, P.O. Box 530,
Jackson, MS
39205-0530

Send news,
communication,
and address changes
to: The Editor, Baptist
Record, P.O. Box 530,
Jackson, MS
39205-0530

Tel: (601) 968-3800
Fax: (601) 292-3330
E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org



VOLUME 138 • NUMBER 37 • ISSN 0005-6778
Published weekly except weeks of July 4 and Christmas by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, 515 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS 39201. Subscription \$10.95 per year payable in advance. Economy plans available for cooperating Mississippi churches. Periodicals postage paid at Jackson, MS. Member, Association of State Baptist Papers. Deadlines: News items — one calendar week prior to requested publication date. Advertising — two calendar weeks prior to requested publication date. All submissions are subject to editing.

Nigeria teeters as Islamic extremists sow terror, death

ABUJA, Nigeria (BP) — Boko Haram's relentless captures of villages in northeastern Nigeria is gaining attention from United States and United Nations security officials, who say the terrorists' victories are troubling and pose a serious threat to Nigeria's overall security.

The U.S. is "very troubled by the apparent capture of Bama and the prospects of an attack on [Borno state capital] Maiduguri," U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Linda Thomas-Greenfield told a group of international security officials convened in Abuja Sept. 4.

The U.S. is preparing to launch a "major" border security program to help Nigeria, Thomas-Greenfield said, but offered no details, the Associated Press reported.

Nigeria's military has apparently recaptured Bama, a town of about 200,000 in northeast Borno from Boko Haram and blocked the Islamist militants' advance toward Maiduguri, according to a senior military official who requested anonymity, Reuters reported.

After Boko Haram captured Bama on Sept. 1, Nigeria began airstrikes as early as Sept. 3 against the jihadists' military bases outside Bama, and continues to fight threats to neighboring Adamawa, Reuters reported.

Boko Haram's attacks have disproportionately targeted Christians in efforts to establish Islamic rule in the country where Christians comprise roughly half the population of some 179 million. In the latest attacks, the terrorists have begun occupying towns as "Islamic Caliphates" and hoisting Boko Haram flags, reportedly in the Damboa and Gwoza towns in Borno and Buni Yadi in Yobe.

Boko Haram killed about 350 Christians in northeastern Nigeria in the past week and forced the temporary closure of Kulp Bible College in Kwarhi and many churches, Nigeria's Church of the Brethren in Nigeria (EYN) told Morning Star News. Thousands are feared trapped in areas that Boko Haram has captured.

In total, an estimated 1.5 million Nigerians have been forced to flee their homes, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Since 2009, Boko Haram has killed about 15,000 Christians including nearly 30 clergy; destroyed or bombed 208 churches; burned 25,000 homes; and bombed 35 schools in the legislative region, Biye Gumtha said. Ojutiku believes Biye Gumtha's numbers are credible.

Christian leaders in the region are requesting prayers. EYN President Samuel Dali sent what was described as an "emergency prayer message" to Morning Star News and other agencies, Morning Star News reported.

"Boko Haram violence has been getting worse every day, and our members are fleeing the area by the thousands," Dali said in the report. "Recent attacks in Borno and Adamawa states where... our churches are located have seen Boko Haram take over the Army base. As a result, about 350 Christians have been killed."

Boko Haram overtakes towns by both trickery and force, Ojutiku said, often dressing as Nigeria military soldiers and using military vehicles. Boko Haram has intensified attacks on Nigerian towns since President Goodluck Jonathan declared a state of emergency in northeastern Nigeria in May, 2013.

The U.S. State Department designated Boko Haram an official foreign terrorist organization in December 2013, giving the U.S. added power to weaken the group. The European Union followed in June, designating the jihadists a terror group.

The U.S. extended military intelligence support to Nigeria in May, after Boko Haram kidnapped nearly 300 school girls in Chibok. Efforts to secure the girls' release have been unsuccessful. While some escaped independently, an estimated 223 remain missing and are feared forced into slavery as wives of Muslims.

Since 2009, Boko Haram has killed about 15,000 Christians including nearly 30 clergy; destroyed or bombed 208 churches; burned 25,000 homes; and bombed 35 schools in the legislative region.

Biye Gumtha



HARD LIFE — A Yazidi Kurdish mother washes off her sick toddler in a refugee camp in a northern Iraqi city, where they were forced to flee after ISIS extremists overran their homes and began mass executions of residents. (BP photo of Baptist Global Relief)

Iraqi families' need to tell stories overwhelms hunger, displacement

NASHVILLE (BP) — More than they want food, forcibly displaced families in northern Iraq want to talk about the pain they are enduring at the hands of Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) extremists, according to Baptist workers in the area.

"Where we are working, I can say we are the first outside help to show up in many of these places," said Abraham Shepherd, who leads Baptist Global Response work in the Middle East. "Other outsiders passed by, took pictures and were gone, but we determined to be different. We spent time listening to their story."

"They need to tell their pain, more than the little supplies that we can hand them. They forget about their physical needs and want to talk, as they notice a difference in us — that we care."

The people in need are Iraqi Christians, Kurdish Yazidis, and other minorities, Shepherd said. They have taken refuge in tents, unfinished buildings, and schools, and under highway underpasses and tarps. They are enduring scorching summer heat and dread the harsh winter weather that is coming.

Many of them have heart-breaking stories to tell. In one village of 700 people, only three made it out alive. Children and old women have been discovered abandoned in the mountains. A man carried his crippled brother for 16 hours, with blood oozing from his foot.

A man in his 60s wearing pajamas paces back and forth, asking constantly: "Where should I go now? What should I do? Can this happen? I worked all my life, with

only a year left to retirement, and now without job income or pension. What can I do at my age?"

A woman in her late 40s named "Faithful" sent her husband and boys away when radical Islamists threatened them. She stayed behind in their village with her two daughters. While she was away from the house one day, masked men broke in and set her oldest daughter Rita, who was 23, on fire with a bottle of gasoline.

Rita survived one month in the hospital, and Faithful took care of her around the clock. One night, she held Rita and sang lullabies to her. She talked to her about one day being healed, marrying, and having children.

Rita asked for water, then said, "Mom, please forgive them," and passed away in her arms. She died on Good Friday.

"Even though Faithful is forcibly displaced, she is helping other forcibly displaced people, saying: 'God gave and God took. May He be glorified,'" Shepherd said. "As we left, she asked us to make her story known so this will not happen to others, and that's what I'm doing."

In addition to the threats and violence, the forcibly displaced families clearly have had no food for some time, Shepherd said. "It shows on their tired, withering body with no energy left, with sagging face, dark rings around their eyes, and shrinking arm circumference noticeable among the children, a sign of being undernourished."

"Yet with all of their needs for the basic necessities of life, they said to us as we are leaving, 'If you find others in worse situa-

tions than us, please give to them, not us.'"

The greatest needs among the forcibly displaced are for blankets, food, water, propane burners, pillows, mattress, wheelchairs, carpets to isolate the cold and provide some comfort, baby formula, and health care, Shepherd said.

Baptist Global Response is drawing on resources provided by Global Hunger Relief (GHR) to provide food, water, baby formula, propane burners and temporary shelter. They also have been helping families obtain cooling units to provide relief from scorching summer heat.

GHR is the Southern Baptist channel for giving to hunger needs across North America and around the world. Donations to GHR will be emphasized when many Southern Baptist churches observe World Hunger Sunday, Oct. 12.

"At night the team gathers and prays over all these needs and the people we met, and we make strategic decisions as to where and what to provide, and to whom, as we share the love of God. It's a privilege to be here in tough places, touching people's lives in a way that will have lasting impact," Shepherd said.

"We are able to do this because of God's love and your prayers — and the generous giving of Southern Baptists, but we can do more. Our days are long, but our strength is renewed every day with total peace, in a place of sorrow and pain for many forcibly displaced people."

For more information, visit globalhungerrelief.com.

With the announced retirement of Dr. Tom Elliff as president of the International Mission Board, the board began a search for a new president and elected Dr. David Platt by a margin of 75 to 5. When the word went out across the Convention, the news was received with a variety of emotions. Some were glad, for a young, passionate, articulate leader had been elected to guide Southern Baptists in seeking to reach our world for Christ. Though he has not served as a missionary, he has certainly lived with a heart for a world that needs Christ. Others, upon hearing the news, were mad. Maybe more than anger it was just a frustration and disappointment that a man who is pastor of a church who had given so little support to missions through the Cooperative Program and even the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for international missions would be elected to lead that organization. I listened in the post-election interview as Dr. Platt explained that when he went to his church they had virtually no connectivity and little cooperation with Southern Baptist missions. During his time as pastor he led them toward increasing their support. He even stated in the interview that he never held his church up as the example of how churches were supposed to support the Cooperative Program or missions. Obviously, he, like all of us, lives in a world that maybe is not perfect and maybe is not like we think it ought to be. But some folks upon hearing the news, and the whole set of circumstances surrounding it and the person who will now be our president, were just sad. I say they are sad because I've heard that reflected in their voices and their conversations, as the focal point of our mission cause has risen to an opportunity of criticism and controversy, even condemnation, rather than being focused on a Savior who indeed is the only hope of this world.

Obviously, there are many feelings and clearly everyone has an opinion. In the midst of all that was said and is being expressed, I thought of the young doctors

who are in medical school preparing to do a great work. It doesn't take long for them to run into the old cliché thought that is so true. **DO NO HARM.** The fact is doctors practicing their trade may not always be able to help and may not be able to bring the right application of expertise or science that will make everything okay; but whatever you do, even if you can't improve a person's situation, do no harm. It seems to me that that advice would be good for us to pause and contemplate related to our International Mission Board. Before we speak or criticize or say too much, make an internal commitment that whatever we do we will seek to do no harm. In what way you might ask. Well, let me just give you a few thoughts on how harm could be done.

Number One, do no harm to our missionaries. There is an army of gifted, God-called missionaries who have been sent out around the world to serve Jesus and on our behalf. They are our missionaries and the program of worldwide missions is larger than one person. It involves thousands of men and women and their families, many of whom are living under

difficult circumstances and often at high risk in order that the people of the world might know of Jesus. We love them. We must pray for them and continue to support them more than ever. I know there are some who have expressed their thoughts that, since our new president didn't give like they think he should have, that they are going to stop giving. Personally, that makes little sense to me that you would criticize someone for what they didn't do, but you are going to use them as the example of what you're going to do. Our missionaries deserve our support. Do no harm.

Secondly, I would simply ask you to do no harm concerning a world of lost people, many of whom have never heard the name of Jesus. Leaders come and leaders go, and presidents are elected and presidents change, and the cause that brought Jesus here to give His life for our sins and the sins of the world must not become secondary to anybody or anything. For a moment, put yourself on the receiving end of the good news of Jesus. Although you have come to know who He is and what He can do in your life,

and the peace and the joy and purposeful life He has brought to you, what if you were waiting to be the recipient of that precious gift from God? Surely if you had any idea of how marvelous God's love and provisions would be for you, you would hope that nothing would cause those who were the recipients of that gift to be stopped, deterred, or slowed in any way from getting the message out so that you could hear. We have the good news and the waiting world must hear from us. We must not be stopped and we must do no harm.

But last of all, which is in reality first of all, do no harm to our wonderful Lord. We have a magnificent mission heritage in Southern Baptist life, but wanting to hold up our great tradition pales into insignificance in comparison to wanting to honor Jesus. What does He want us to do? What would He have us to say? What is the spirit in which He would have us to act and react? We represent Him and while neither I nor you nor anyone else can control what others do, think or say, we can commit to do no harm and seek to do our best to honor Him and serve Him all the days of our life.

So then if we do no harm, what can we do to help? Three words. **Pray.** Pray for our missionaries, pray for our new president, pray for yourself and what God would have you to do, pray for your church, pray for a world that is in need of Jesus, pray. **Say.** Speak up for the calling and cause of Christ. Be positive about the call to missions and our call to be involved in what Christ would be involved in. **Pay.** In a world that seems to be headed toward war in every direction and morally bankrupt at almost every sector, the need for Christ to be exalted has never been greater. You can help provide the resources to make sure that the work of Jesus is not going to be left behind, undone, or uncared for. God bless you.

The author can be contacted at directions@mbc.org.

A New President of the International Mission Board

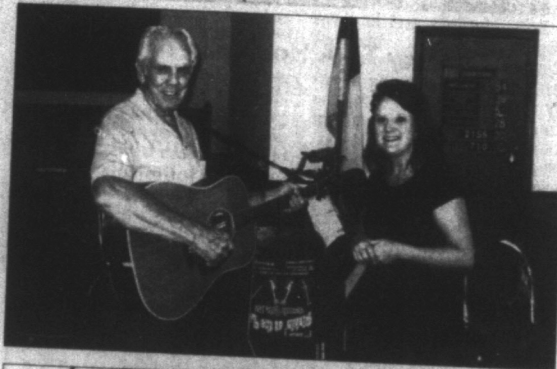


Just for the Record



PINEVIEW CHURCH, LAUREL, recognized 87-year-old Charlie Allred Aug. 31 for six years of perfect Sunday School attendance. He is shown with pastor Tim Nelson.

Regional musician "Toad" Donahoo, left, with **LIBERTY CHURCH, CARROLL COUNTY'S** pianist, Angela Narmour Cleveland, are seen during the church's 5th Sunday Singing in August.



ETHEL CHURCH, ETHEL, ordained Cye McKinney as deacon Aug. 31. Shown are Kelley McKinney, McKinney, and Ralph Hunt.



FIRST CHURCH, RICHTON, recently recognized Arluin Mercer and Earnest Nicholson for over 50 years of dedicated service to children's Sunday School.

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS.

September 18, 2014

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

Health Works



Baptist
HEALTH SYSTEMS

6 Week Bible Study

A Journey To A Healthier You

A six-week DVD led Bible Study from Baptist Health Systems that leads you through indepth discussions on 6 highly recognized topics-General Health, Heart & Stroke, Diabetes, Obesity, Cancer, Intimacy. Gather your small group together to learn what God says about our responsibility here on earth to guard and protect this temple that He has given us. Decide today what you will do to make changes to your current lifestyle if it doesn't match up to God's Word.

Online Order:

www.healthworksdvd.com

Mail Order:

HealthWorks

PO Box 2253

Madison, MS 39130

Contact the Church Growth Department of the MBCB for more information at 800-748-1651, ext. 310.

I WILL GIVE YOU A NEW HEART

EZEKIEL 11:19

PRAY FOR GOD TO RENEW
YOUR HEARTS FOR HIS MISSION.

PLAN YOUR CHURCH'S STATE
MISSION EMPHASIS BETWEEN
SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER.

Margaret Lackey
OFFERING FOR STATE MISSIONS
MISSISSIPPI

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE MISSION
STRATEGY DEPT. AT THE MBCB | 1-800-748-1651, EXT. 231

2014
COLLEGE
STUDENT CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 26-27 • CROSSGATES BAPTIST CHURCH • BRANDON

**STEP
OUT
OF
THE
BOAT**

*He said, "Come
Saunders got out of the boat
and came to Jesus.
Matthew 14:28"*

SPEAKERS

FRANK PAGE NASHVILLE, TN
GARY PERMENTER COLUMBUS, MS

MUSIC

ROSS KING
COLLEGE STATION, TX

**FOR ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS
GET INFO ABOUT SUMMER MISSIONS**

REGISTRATION FEE \$8

**CONTACT YOUR BSU DIRECTOR OR
CHURCH MINISTER TO REGISTER**

OR CALL THE COLLEGIATE MINISTRY DEPARTMENT

800-748-1651

SPONSORED BY THE COLLEGIATE MINISTRY DEPARTMENT
MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION BOARD AND BAPTIST STUDENT UNION
A MINISTRY OF THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM
P.O. BOX 530 | JACKSON, MS | 39205

Is Your Bible Study for Preschoolers and Children Healthy?

Live Training Web Casts

PRESCHOOL Leadership Thursday, November 13

6:30-8:00 PM

Hosted and lead by Mississippi Sunday School Leaders
along with a panel of local ministry leaders AND
November 13: Clara Mae Van Brink, Preschool Ministry Speaker, Canton, Georgia

Join with us at no cost from wherever you are on your computer/laptop,
phone, tablet, iPod.

Connect with us on November 13 at
www.mbc.org/ssleadertraining

A Ministry of the Cooperative Program
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Sunday School Department P.O. Box 530, Jackson MS 39205
1-800-748-1651 or 601-948-2600, ext. 291

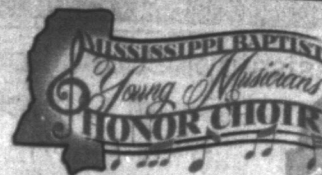
Ministers' Wives Conference

OCTOBER 27, 2014 | FBC JACKSON, 5TH FLOOR

Guest Speaker: Trudy Cathy White
1:30 p.m. Registration
FBC, Jackson - 5th Floor Main Building

Preregistration is encouraged so that we may better prepare.

For more information contact the Pastor/Leadership Development Dept. of the MBCB:
E-mail: cwtaylor@mbcb.org
Fax: 601.714.7426 • Phone: 800.748.1651, ext. 208; 601.292.3305



The Mississippi Baptist Young Musicians Honor Choir Weekend
April 11-12, 2015 - Cleary Baptist Church, Florence MS
Guest Choral Conductor: Susan Messer

No Audition Fee - Submit audition form & video audition beginning
August 1, 2014

(Upon acceptance Choir Member cost for weekend is \$70 (covers
member meals, snacks, music, listening CD, Weekend DVD,
concert polo shirt)

For 2015 audition form: <http://www.mbc.org>
Contact: Wyndy South, Church Music Department, 601-292-3272 locally or
1-800-748-1651, ext. 272 statewide. E-mail: wsouth@mbcb.org

EQUIPPING LEADERS

ONLINE TRAINING

FOR WMU MISSIONS AND WOMEN'S MINISTRY LEADERS

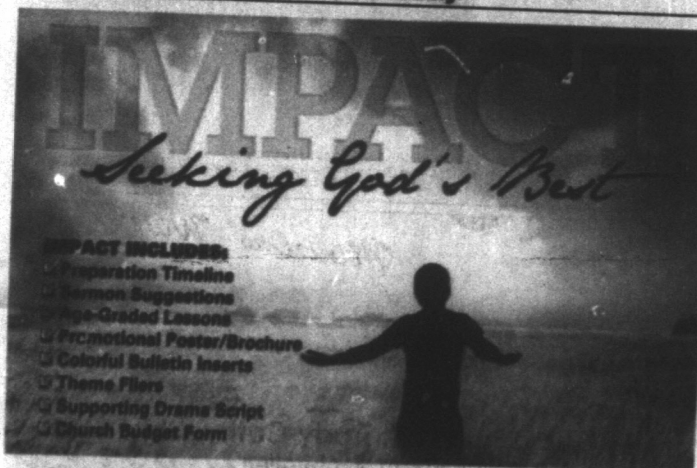
Mississippi WMU is now offering online training for missions and Women's Ministry leaders.

These online conferences are designed to train missions and women's ministry leaders in the local association and church to facilitate missions education and women's ministry as needed in their ministry environment.

To participate you must register online. To register, go to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Web site (www.mbc.org), under the departments tab click on missions strategy, then click on WMU and select the Online Training tab under Missions Education.

The cost per conference is \$10 (except for the Adult Missions and Women's Ministry Course which is \$18). The course fee covers all books & resources you will need to complete the course.

For more information about online training please contact Tammy Anderson in the Mississippi WMU office at the MBCB at 800-748-1651, ext. 323, or tanderson@mbcb.org



IMPACT
Seeking God's Best

IMPACT INCLUDES:

- Preparation Timeline
- Sermon Suggestions
- Age-Graded Lessons
- Promotional Poster/Brochure
- Colorful Bulletin Inserts
- Theme Fliers
- Supporting Drama Script
- Church Budget Form

CONTACT THE STEWARDSHIP/CP PROMOTION DEPT. OF THE MBCB AT:
1-800-748-1651, ext. 274, or lilevell@mbcb.org

God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done: the saving of many lives. - Genesis 50:20

Mississippi Council on Bivocational/Small Church Ministries Meeting

Baptist Building Sky Room

3-4:45 p.m.

October 27, 2014

FREE

For Bivocational/Small Church ministers and their wives. Afterwards, meal will be served at FBC, Jackson, FH West at 4:45 p.m. Please e-mail cwtaylor@mbcb.org or call, P/LD office 601-292-3305, to reserve your place to better serve you.

2015 MBASYC&O Auditions & HEARTSONG



2015 MS Baptist All-State Youth Choir and Orchestra

Rehearsal Camp & Tour Dates
June 8-15, 2015

Auditioned Choir and Orchestra for 9th thru 12th Graders (2013-2014 school year)

HeartSong, Music and Worship Arts Camp

For 6th thru 12th Graders
(2013-2014 school year)
June 23-27, 2015

MBASYC&O 2014 FALL AUDITIONS

2014 Auditions for the 2015 Mississippi Baptist All-State Youth Choir and Orchestra

Open to 9th-12th graders

Involved in the music ministry of MS Southern Baptist Churches
REGISTER 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO THE AUDITION.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

4:00 - 7:00 P.M.

First Baptist Church, Meridian, MS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2014

4:00 - 7:00 P.M.

Fairview Baptist Church, Columbus, MS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2014

1:30 - 4:00 P.M.

North Oxford Baptist Church, Oxford, MS

SATURDAY, October 18, 2014

1:00 - 4:00 P.M.

Baptist Building, Jackson, MS

SUNDAY, October 19, 2014

2:00 - 5:00 P.M.

Baptist Building, Jackson, MS

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE SEE THE INFORMATION ON THE MBCB.ORG WEB SITE, OR CONTACT THE CHURCH MUSIC DEPT. AT THE MBCB AT 800-748-1651, ext. 267, or 601-292-3267

AMD/SEMINARY EXTENSION DIRECTORS BREAKFAST

Baptist Building Chapel

7-8 a.m.

October 28, 2014

FREE

AMDs and Seminary Extension Directors are invited to this breakfast. Registration is encouraged. Please contact the Pastor/Leadership Development Dept. of the MBCB, cwtaylor@mbcb.org or call 601-292-3305.

GuideStone

Disciple - Deafight

COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

2014 Church Compensation Survey results - now available!

Go to www.mbc.org - click on 2012 Church Compensation Survey (you'll see the 2014 survey results)

Health Insurance is a tangle of information. www.GuideStone.org can help straighten out your understanding

Click on "Health Care Reform"

Be sure your pastor is enrolled in the "Church Retirement Plan"
For more information, call Robin Nichols, MBCB/GuideStone Rep., 601-292-3226.

Pray this day for...

September 19 - October 9, 2014

"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words."

Romans 8:26

Pray for: **John & Sarah Perkins**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through mission support, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Michael & Sarah Prewitt**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through church planting, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **John & Amy Purl**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through volunteer coordination, community outreach.

Pray for: **Eugenia & Tracy Putnam**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through church planting.

Pray for: **L & M**, missionaries to European Peoples.

Pray for: **Stephen & Svetlana Parish**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through strategy coordination, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Kevin & Brenda Peacock**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through theological education, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Nickolee & Steven Roberts**, missionaries to Sub-Saharan African Peoples through church planting and church/home outreach and evangelism.

Pray for: **Marty & Suzanne Roberts**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples.

Pray for: **Ruth & Steven Robertson**, missionaries ministering to Sub-Saharan African Peoples through financial administration, church/home outreach and evangelism.

Pray for: **Bethany Sharp**, missionary ministering to European Peoples through community outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **George & Geraldine Smith**, missionaries ministering to Sub-Saharan African Peoples through church planting, church/home outreach and evangelism.

Pray for: **Thomas & Janna Smith**, missionaries ministering to American Peoples through church planting and regional office support.

Pray for: **Clay & Jeri Stegall**, missionaries ministering to American Peoples through strategy coordination.

Pray for: **Jeanette Taylor**, missionary ministering to Southeast Asian Peoples through regional office support.

Pray for: **Karl & Peggy Wallace**, missionaries ministering to American Peoples through mission administration & church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **David & Regina White**, missionaries ministering to American Peoples through church planting & church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Floyd & Sylvia Wingo**, missionaries ministering to American Peoples through strategy coordination.

Pray for: **Shannon & Charlie Worthy**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples.

Pray for: **James & Mary Adair**, missionaries ministering to Sub-Saharan African Peoples through church planting & church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Mark & Karen Alexander**, missionaries ministering to American Peoples.

The missionaries listed in the HouseTops prayer calendar are currently active in 2-4 year terms or in career service.

2015 AREA & STATE KEYBOARD FESTIVALS

Thursday, January 29, 2015 — 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

FBC, 300 N. Church St, Tupelo, 38804

FBC, 202 7th St. N, Columbus, 39703

Tylertown BC, 409 Tyler Ave, Tylertown, 39667

FBC, 431 N. State St, Jackson, 39201

Poplar Springs Dr. BC, 4032 Poplar Springs Dr, Meridian, 39305

Petal-Harvey BC, 600 South Main St, Petal, 39465

FBC, 902 Live Oak Ave, Pascagoula, 39567

FBC, 607 W. 5th St, Laurel, 39442

Friday, January 30, 2015 — 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Longview Heights BC, 4501 Goodman Rd, Olive Branch, 38654

Saturday, January 31, 2015 — 9:30 a.m. - noon

FBC, 450 Faith Dr, Grenada, 38901

North Greenwood BC, 515 Grand Blvd., Greenwood, 38930

For more information contact the Church Music Department at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board at 1-800-748-1651, ext. 267, or 601-292-3267

NEW

Generational Mother/Daughter OVERNIGHT

Garaywa Camp & Conference Center, Clinton

October 17-18, 2014

5 p.m. Friday evening - 2:30 p.m. Saturday afternoon

Girls who are currently in 1st-12th grade and their mother/sister/aunt/grandmother are invited to join us for a Generational Mother/Daughter. Our hope is to involve several generations in one big event at the greatest place on earth! During the time that you spend with us, you will be studying missions, worshipping, playing games and having tons of fun with new friends from churches all over Mississippi. Register now to reserve your spot for this weekend!

For more information and registration forms, please visit garaywa.org

HOUSE TOPS

BIBL iO C i P H E R

EKL WSTGT EKTHSASL EKL TEZL GKNM

RZD, YSN NRSS JSRZKL DS, TENEK:

PMA ZN ZT HAZNNSK, NRMG TREVN

HMATRZU NRS VMAL NRO YML, EKL

RZD MKVO TREVN NRMG TSACS.

VGBS PMGA: SZYRN

Clue: J = B

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Mark 16:16

By Charles Marx, 1932-2004, © 2005

Need a light?

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)
If you make a decision for Christ today, contact a local Southern Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

First Person: Relationship with your physician is vital

FIFTH IN A SERIES

By Bard Johnston
Correspondent

Cancer is the second leading cause of death in Mississippi. This year an estimated 2,420 lung; 2,210 prostate; 2,130 breast; and 1,510 colorectal cancer diagnoses are expected in our state.

Lifestyle factors such as cigarette smoking, consumption of high-fat foods, and physical inactivity remain the major risk factors that increase the chances of developing cancer. If you've been reading this series of HealthWorks articles, you already recognize these are the same lifestyle issues discussed in the other articles. While there is a genetic predisposition to cancer, these lifestyle factors are things we have the power to change.

During the video series, we talk about the need to have an established relationship with a primary care physician. This relationship is key in the diagnosis of disease. One thing I ask every patient about is their family medical history. I want to know not only about you, but also about the health status of your first degree relatives.

If you identify a family history of a particular disease, I want to know the age it

occurred. For instance, if you have a dad who had either colon cancer or a propensity for colon polyps, I'll recommend we back up 10 years from his diagnosis to begin your screenings. This is also true for a family history of prostate or breast cancer.



JOHNSTON

Screenings are very important. I encourage you to take advantage of screening programs when available. If you have cancer, you want it identified as early as possible when the disease is in the most treatable stage. Screening programs usually provide earlier diagnosis.

There has been a lot in the news recently regarding the effectiveness of medical screenings. Some say we screen too much, identify false positives too often, or that the findings are inconclusive. This is where your relationship with a primary care physician, who knows you and your medical history, comes into play. Your primary care physician, looking at your medical history and family history, can determine which screening tests are right for you and when you should have them.

Beginning at age forty, annual screening mammography is the standard test for breast cancer. With an identified family history of breast cancer, screening exams could begin at an earlier age. Many

women find their own breast cancer by discovering lumps during self-examination. Though somewhat rare, men can also have breast cancer. The key is in knowing what is normal for your body then reacting appropriately when you know things aren't right.

This goes back to being responsible and accountable for your own health. I know you have also heard that recurring theme through all of our HealthWorks sessions.

The screening recommendations and guidelines for lung cancer are very precise. However, if you have been a heavy smoker for a number of years, I recommend that you discuss this with your primary care physician and determine what testing is right for you.

I believe when you understand having good health really works for you and your entire family, you will want to change any lifestyle issues which are adversely affecting your health. I encourage you to seek timely, appropriate medical care when you have symptoms which need attention. Ignoring symptoms will not make them go away.

This HealthWorks series is informative, entertaining, and wrapped in a Bible study format that just may inspire you to get started. Learn more about this series and place an order at HealthWorksDVD.com.

Johnston is a family medicine physician at the Baptist Medical Clinic in Madison.

Submission Guidelines

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published.

Preferred method: news may be submitted electronically to the e-mail address below, and must be included in the message segment of an e-mail form. Secondary method: news may be typewritten or neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper and mailed. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone. Due to ever-present virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments in JPEG format are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs must be submitted electronically

via e-mail, as attachments in JPEG format. Hard copy photographs mailed through the postal service will not be accepted. Photographs must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. Photographs containing inappropriate gestures and objectionable clothing will not be published. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items that do not reproduce well on newsprint are generally not publishable.

There is no guarantee that news items and/or photographs will be published, and unsolicited material will not be acknowledged or returned. All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date. Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. These guidelines are not meant to be exhaustive.

Submit news to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

CALIFORNIA

cont. from p. 1

2014, to not dismiss me, and to instead become a Third Way church (agree to disagree and not cast judgement [sic] on one another ...). This is a huge step for a Southern Baptist Church!"

A former elder at New Heart told Baptist Press that the church in reality never adopted any position on the issue and split into two groups in early June amid unresolvable deadlock.

Following Cortez's controversial sermon, the congregation voted on four possible options

and stipulated that it would separate peacefully if it did not achieve a two-thirds majority. According to the former elder, the four options presented were:

■ Terminate Cortez as pastor and maintain the traditional Christian view that homosexuality is sinful.

■ Take more time to consider the issue.

■ Establish New Heart as a "third way" church, neither affirming nor condemning homosexuality but "agreeing to disagree."

■ Become a fully gay-affirming church.

Failure to achieve a two-thirds

majority led to the previously agreed upon separation. The faction that went with Cortez retained the name, "New Heart Community Church," and the articles of incorporation. The faction that went with Cortez was the subject of the CSBC's action.

Setzler told board members he and CSBC Executive Director Fernin A. Whittaker along with D. August Boto, executive vice president and general counsel for the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee, met with Cortez and a member of his church on Sept. 3 in the Los Angeles area.

The "best thing for convention leadership was to actually hear

from" Cortez, Setzler said. "It's easy to be misquoted and misunderstood... so we wanted to actually hear from him. It was a cordial meeting."

Setzler added, "We came away believing that Cortez still believed what he had written to the blogger."

Cortez was given an opportunity to attend the CSBC Executive Board meeting on Sept. 11 and speak, Setzler said, but "he did not choose to do that." According to Setzler, Cortez affirmed during the Sept. 3 meeting with convention leaders that New Heart "still would like to be a Southern Baptist church."

The Los Angeles Southern Baptist Association's executive board recommended in July that the association not seat messengers from New Heart at its Oct. 11 meeting. If the board's recommendation is adopted, the association will not receive any New Heart contributions, director of missions Mark Hammond told Baptist Press.

Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee chairman Mike Rott told BP he thought it likely that the EC would consider the same issues the California convention did and perhaps act on the matter during its meeting Sept. 22-23 in Nashville.

BSU

cont. from p. 1

located just south of its 53-year-old home on the green space near the former location of Hamlin Hall, a residence hall torn down in 2004.

A groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for 4 p.m. on Oct. 7. In addition to Ball, participants scheduled for the event include MSU President Mark Keenum, Vice President for Campus Services Amy Tuck, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Executive Director Jim Futral, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Associate Executive Director Barri Shirley, and Mississippi Baptist Collegiate Ministry Director Weaver McCracken.

"This is a day we have prayed for and dreamed about for many years," Ball said. "Our progress reflects the commitment MSU students and Mississippi Baptists have for reaching this campus for Christ. Our goal has always been to know Christ and to make Him known."

June Scoggins, associate BSU director, said a celebration of the current building and the Mississippi State BSU ministry will take place the weekend of MSU Homecoming on Nov. 8.

"Since the beginning of BSU ministry in the 1930s to present, many students' lives have been touched and changed through this ministry," she said. "Students have come to know Christ as Savior, others have been led to pursue a call to ministry or missions, and countless students have grown in their Christian faith as a result of this important ministry and the spiritual growth opportunities offered."

Scoggins said as part of the homecoming celebration, an open house will take place in the current building from 6-9 p.m. Nov. 7, and the traditional homecoming meal will take place before the Saturday game. The luncheon time will be posted after game time is announced.

She encouraged BSU alumni and friends to post favorite memories and to monitor the BSU website for more information at msusbsu.com.

College News

► U.S. News & World Report has released its 2015 college rankings and William Carey University again earned several prestigious honors. WCU, which has campuses in Hattiesburg and Biloxi, Mississippi, was named a top tier "Best Regional University in the South," ranking 37 out of the 126 universities listed. The rankings include both public and private universities in the southern United States, including Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Arkansas, South Carolina, North Carolina, West Virginia, Virginia and Kentucky. WCU was ranked three out of 15 schools among its colleagues which received the distinction of "Great School, Great Price," a ranking that calculates a school's academic quality and the 2013-2014 net cost of attendance for a student who receives the average level of need-based financial aid. WCU was also ranked an "A-Plus School for B Students" in the Southern region, a ranking that takes into account the individuality of the student body and the opportunities available for the average student.

► Mississippi College ranks near the top of the list of Southern regional universities when it comes to measuring best values, says U.S. News & World Report. In a new report released September 9, the magazine showcases MC as No. 4 in the category of "Great Schools, Great Prices," as it evaluates affordability among the South's regional institutions. The new U.S. News & World Report guide to colleges also lists MC in 29th place among the South's best regional universities. That puts Mississippi College in a higher ranking than such schools as Western Kentucky, Radford University in Virginia, Arkansas State, North Florida, Lee University in Tennessee, the University of North Georgia, Morehead State in Kentucky and North Alabama, among others.

CLASSIFIEDS

WANT A GOOD GROUP OF CHRISTIAN WOMEN TO ENTERTAIN AT YOUR NEXT SENIOR CITIZENS GROUP? Call The Raggedy Bunch, a washub group. We sing, tell jokes, and play instruments. Call us at 601-857-0736.

PART-TIME WORSHIP LEADER Wilmer Baptist Church is searching for a spirit lead, experienced individual to fill a Part Time Worship leader position. This individual will be responsible to lead choir, contemporary worship service and work with instrumentalists. For more details visit www.wilmerchurch.com.

NORRIS BOOKBINDING COMPANY, INC., OLD BIBLES REBOUND. Also, church bulletins and hymnals. For more information call 662-453-7424 or fax us at 662-455-6743.

MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ARLINGTON, TEXAS. For more details visit www.fbc.org or email erica.laylor@fbc.org

WINDOW AND SCREEN SHOP — windows and storm windows built to fit your opening. Plus new window screens and rescreen old screens. Call Tom Cook 601-709-4879.

CHURCH PEW UPHOLSTERY, FREE ESTIMATES. Davis Upholstery, Quitman, Miss., phone 601-776-8617.

GATLINBURG RENTALS: Cabin \$95/night and Condo \$75/night. Contact: 832-922-0401 or E-mail: pdw4780@aol.net for information and booking.

STAINED GLASS: new windows and repairs. Hopper Stained Glass, Jackson, 601-502-0202.

GET THE BEST RATES ON: Health Insurance and Medicare Supplements. Call 1-800-541-8196 or visit www.TurnerInsuranceOnline.com

SEBREN'S SIDING www.sebrenhomeimprovement.com. Christian owned Don & Rita Sebre. 601-992-2092. All home improvements, siding, energy efficient windows, metal & shingle roofs, screen & sunrooms, patio covers, decks, room additions, kitchen & bath upgrades.

HEIDELBERG STAINED GLASS, MERIDIAN. DESIGN, FABRICATION, REPAIR. heidelbergstainedglass.com or call 800-368-2705.

AFFORDABLE BEACHSIDE VACATION CONDOS: GULF SHORES & ORANGE BEACH, AL. Rent direct from Christian Family Owners. Lowest Prices on the Beach. www.gulfshorescondos.com, 205-556-0368, 205-752-1231, 251-752-2366.

STAINED GLASSWORKS, INC., serving MS & AL since 1992. Call 800-605-2970.

MS POSITIONS

LIBERTY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH IN POPE, MS IS LOOKING FOR A PART TIME STUDENT MINISTER. Please direct resumes and questions to stacey.bowden@yahoo.com

DERMA BAPTIST CHURCH IN DERMA, MS IS SEEKING A FULL-TIME MINISTER OF MUSIC & EDUCATION. Resumes can be emailed to dermabaptist@tds.net or mailed to PO Box 67 Derma, MS 38839.

CEDAR GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH, COLUMBIA, MS IS SEEKING A PART-TIME YOUTH MINISTER. Please call Bro. Todd Sumrall if interested. (601-341-0665).

EVOCATIONAL MUSIC/YOUTH DIRECTOR NEEDED AT SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH (MARSHALL COUNTY), IN POTTS CAMP, MS. Please e-mail resume to jmstephens73@hotmail.com or may mail to Dennis Garrison, 3258 Hwy 349 South, Potts Camp, MS 38659.

FBC-PLANTERSVILLE IS SEEKING A PART-TIME PIANIST. Call 662-842-8486

FAIRFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH IN MOSELLE, MS IS LOOKING FOR A PART-TIME YOUTH MINISTER. Send resume to 942 Moselle Seminary Rd, Moselle, Ms 39459 or email to fairfield@bayspringgate.net

PART-TIME YOUTH MINISTER NEEDED AT NEW SIGHT BAPTIST CHURCH. Please send resumes to: Youth Minister Search Committee, 629 Forest Trail, Brookhaven, Ms. 39601

MEADOWVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH, STARKVILLE, MS, IS ACCEPTING RESUMES FOR A FULL-TIME MINISTER OF MUSIC AND EDUCATION. Please mail resumes to Meadowview Baptist Church, Attn: Music Search Committee, 300 Linden Circle, Starkville, MS 39759.

GRIFFITH MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH, LOCATED AT 5279 TERRY ROAD IN SOUTH JACKSON, IS CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR A FULL TIME MINISTRY ASSISTANT/SECRETARY. For the job description and more information, go to www.griffithmemorial.com and click on the job information link.

STAR BAPTIST CHURCH, RANKIN COUNTY, IS SEEKING A PART TIME INTERIM CHILDREN'S MINISTER. He/She will work 25 hours per week with preschool - 6th grades. Duties include: planning, coordinating, training and implementation of children's activities, working closely with committees. See www.starbaptistchurch.org or call 601-845-2736 for details.

STAR BAPTIST CHURCH, RANKIN COUNTY, MS IS SEEKING A PART-TIME MINISTRY ASSISTANT TO BEGIN 9-1-14. Must have basic knowledge of accounts payable and general ledger and be proficient in word and power point. Will be cross trained in other duties. Applications are available at starbaptistchurch.org or you may call 601-845-2736.

Sav-A-Life Banquet

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 AT 6:30 P.M.

First Baptist Church Oxford - Fellowship Hall

Guest Speakers: Candy Gibbs & Jerry Little

Theme: Fathers, Will You Fight for Your Children?



Candy and her father, Jerry, are coming from Amarillo, Texas to share their powerful testimonies about the guilt, regret, shame, grief and eventual healing, grace, and love they experienced after Jerry, a youth minister and champion for life, drove his then-18-year-old pregnant daughter, Candy, to an abortion clinic two towns away and paid for the procedure that robbed them all of a precious baby who would never be.

Tickets are \$15 each and may be purchased by mailing requests and checks (made out to Sav-A-Life) to PO Box 1193, Oxford, MS 38655; by calling us at 662-234-4414; or by coming to our center at 295 CR 101 (across from North Oxford Baptist Church).

Sav-A-Life is a Christ-centered pregnancy resource center devoted to preserving and guarding the sanctity of human life through ministry, education and confidential consultation based upon Scriptural principles.

Why One of Us? • Hebrews 2:14-18

To Destroy the Devil (Vs. 14-16)

"Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things" ... Christ had to become "incarnate" in the flesh to save humanity, Phil 2:6-8, "though he (Jesus) was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men." And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." Christ was born with all the normal characteristics that a male human is born with, except one, the fallen nature of Adam.

That through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil... Christ's primary mission was to reverse the curse (Gen. 3) brought on by the serpent's deception of Adam and Eve, which brought death to the human race through God's judgement. Christ's humanity enabled him to... and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. "He is the covenantal seed of Abraham, and his people are one with him by spiritual incorporation into that same seed, without respect

to race or culture. In him, they are the "many sons" who are being brought to glory (v. 10), whom he is not ashamed to call "brethren" (v. 11), "the children" God has given him (v. 13) delivered by him from bondage and death (v. 15) those namely, who, having received him and believed in his name, he has given the power to become children of God (Jn. 1:12)." (Hebrews, Hughes, 119)

Jesus became human (although sinless) and died to destroy the Devil and the power of death.

To Make Propitiation (Vs. 17-18)

Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God... Christ was made like us to "identify himself completely with mankind, whom he came to rescue, by a true incarnation, involving the assumption not only of flesh and blood but also of human feelings and sensibilities..."

every respect." "The Son could not have represented men before God, offering, as their high priest, the sacrifice of himself on their behalf and in their place, had he not first become their fellow man." (Hebrews, Hughes, 119-20)

To make propitiation for the sins of the people... Expiation emphasizes the removal of guilt through a payment

of the penalty, while propitiation emphasizes the appeasement or averting of God's wrath and justice. Both words

falling, as Christ did, is able to help us to withstand temptation. "To be tempted is to be put to the test. To give in to temptation is to fall into sin and fail the test. Christ alone has passed the test by overcoming every single temptation through which he went." (Hebrews, Hughes, 123)

"The help that he brings is two fold: first, he brings forgiveness of sins, the annulment of past defeats, and second, the power (his) to fight and overcome temptation. His own conquest of temptation means for the Christian that the dominion of sin over him has been broken (Rom. 6:14). These two realities, forgiveness and power, are present in the passage before us: he who is our merciful and faithful high priest has both made propitiation for our sins and, himself the victor, is able to help those who are tempted." (Hebrews, Hughes, 124)

As hard as one may try, people are not capable of breaking the power of sin on their own. We are in need of a Savior, Christ took on a human body to be that Savior. "Our hell became his, that his heaven might be ours. Never was there such mercy, never such faithfulness, as this!" (Hebrews, Hughes, 120)

Hazzard is pastor of Woodland Church, Columbus.



Explore the...
with Shelby Hazzard

are related to reconciliation, since it is through Christ's death on the cross for our sins that we are reconciled to a God of holy love (Romans 5:9-11; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Colossians 1:19-23). (Holman Bible Dictionary)

"For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. Only the one that withstood and endured the temptation without

Connected in Growth • Ephesians 4:11-16

Are you familiar with the "Pareto Principle"? You may know it by the more-familiar terminology: the "80-20 Rule". Originally, it applied to an observation made in 1906 by Italian economist Vilfredo Pareto; he discovered that 80% of the land in Italy was owned by 20% of the population. The catch-phrase has become a rule-of-thumb in business; that 80% of a company's sales come from 20% of its clients. In many other scenarios, the 80/20 rule seems to hold true.

Sadly, Pareto's Principle is evident in numerous churches. Approximately 80% of the work is done by - you guessed it - 20% of the members. Part of the problem may be found by pondering this week's lesson. All Christians have spiritual gifts, but many are not employing them. Listings of various spiritual enablements are found in Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, and 1 Peter 4, but the ones in our focal passage are mostly leadership gifts.

Ephesians 4:11-12 lists the Giver and the gifts. Christ "personally gave" (verse 11, HCSB) Spirit-empowered leadership to His church. Although the office of apostle no longer exists, we see evidence of the others being active in the church today. Some Bible teachers see church-age prophets as "forth-tellers", declaring God's word with clarity.

Do we think of our leaders as gifts of love from our Lord's hand? We should.

They have a weighty task: to train us "in the work of the ministry, to build up the body of Christ" (verse 12). The goal: that we become united and mature in our faith and knowledge of God. This should be not only each leader's aspiration, but that of individual members as well.

Most of us would probably admit we haven't totally "arrived" spiritually. Even Paul felt this way (see Philippians 3:10-12). Our ultimate desire should be a spiritual stature "measured by Christ's fullness" (Ephesians 4:13). We can gauge our spiritual maturity by comparing our actions and attitudes to those of Christ. The mature church operates in the full sufficiency of Christ, expressing His character and His example (see also Colossians 1:15-18; 2:10 and Philippians 2:1-11).

With confident expectation, Paul looks past signs of immaturity and vacillation in the church body at Ephesus (verses 14-16). As they followed the leaders' teachings, he envisioned a strong congregation, one whose members

would know and adhere to sound doctrine. They would realize and reject "the techniques of deceit" (verse 14) brought in by false teachers.

Truth will be a hallmark of a mature church. By "speaking the truth in love" (verse 15 NIV), congregation members can steadily progress toward maturity. So how is this done? An Old Testament verse shows a delightful word picture: "Lovingkindness and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have

kissed each other" (Psalm 85:10 NASB). Truth is essential, but it's to be blended with mercy.

Sometimes speaking the truth in love requires sharing what's needful, even when it's painful. We must be willing to stand against things that are contrary to biblical teaching, but we can share humbly without compromising the essentials of our faith. Our words should be guided by the same grace we've received from the Lord.

Christ is the head of the spiritual body known as the church. And just as the

physical head is the command center for the actions of the entire body, so is Christ in relation to His body. He is to hold sway. "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it," says 1 Corinthians 12:27 (NIV). And, as we mature spiritually, "we are fitted together perfectly, and each part in its own special way helps the other parts, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love" (Ephesians 4:16, LB). The word "fitted" translates a compound word based in part on the root for "harmony". Together, the phrase reflects a properly-working and smoothly-functioning whole.

Reflecting on the gifting of believers, Bible teacher Ray Steadman says, "The reason the church has faltered and failed and lost its direction is that...the gifts [Christ] has given us have gone undiscovered and unused."

A body deficient or weak in some way isn't going to perform optimally. In like manner, we must each do our part to support our fellow believers. Louisiana pastor Waylon Bailey puts it thus: "The real question for us must be: 'Am I using my gifts for God's work and the church's good?' Please find a place of service in God's kingdom."

Maniscalco is a member of Lemoyne Boulevard Church in Biloxi.



Bible Studies for Life
with Ann Maniscalco



Revivals & Homecomings

► Parkway Church, Pascagoula: Revival, Sept. 21 - 24; 6:30 p.m. nightly; Wayne Myers, speaker.

► Becker Church, Monroe County: Revival, Sept. 21 - 24;

Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; discipleship classes, Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Mike Herbster, speaker; Herbster Evangelism, music.

► Union Church, Seminary: Revival, Sept. 21 - 23; for in-

formation, call (601) 722-3752.

► Mt. Vernon Church, Meridian: Revival, Sept. 21 - 24; Sun., Jim Futral, speaker; fellowship meal: Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Dennis Robinson, speaker; Shane Simmons, music.

New Providence Church, Perthage: Annual homecoming changed to third Sunday in

October instead of September; homecoming, Oct. 19.

Bunker Hill, Cedar Grove, and Goss Churches, Marion Association: Unity revival, Sept. 22 - 25, 7 p.m. at Bunker Hill; different speaker and music nightly.

► Sand Hill Church, West: Revival, Sept. 21 - 24; Sun., 11

a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Family night Monday; children and youth, Tuesday with pizza @ 6 p.m.; fellowship meal Wednesday, 6 p.m.; Jimmy Thornhill, speaker.

► Glendale Church, Glen: Revival, Sept. 21 - 24; 6:30 p.m. nightly; Wayne Hudson, speaker; Mark Mathis, music.

Just for the Record



FAIR RIVER CHURCH, BROOKHAVEN, held a deacon ordination service for Jeffrey Waycaster Aug. 24. Shown are Bobby Smith, Bruce Hutcherson and Paula, Mary Camille Waycaster, Waycaster, pastor Jay Anderson and Vince Mangold.



CALVARY CHURCH, VICKSBURG, hosted a back to school party for its kids in preparation for their Christmas program.



THE G.A.'S OF VICTORY CHURCH, BROOKHAVEN, recently participated in a lock-in at the church. Leaders are Amber Vining and Tiffani Bessonette.



LIBERTY HILL CHURCH, POPE, had six with perfect attendance. Shown are Tommy Burkley, Bill Still, Margaret Fox, C.W. Bowden, Martha Bowles, and Sonny Moore.



OAK HILL CHURCH, MERIDIAN, recently ordained Erik Cooksey, left, as deacon. He is shown with pastor Mike Russell.



CARROLLTON CHURCH, CARROLLTON, recently held a dedication for its new education/fellowship annex. This service was held 181 years from the exact date that the church was organized on Aug. 24, 1833. Shown are the members of the long-range planning committee.

In other Church News:

- **Liberty Church, Liberty**, is hosting FourTwelve in concert Sept. 21, 6 p.m. Love offering.
- **Cleary Church, Florence**, is sponsoring a crafts fair Sept. 20, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. \$6 lunch plates, kiddie games, homemade desserts.

*Enjoy a warm welcome at
St. Catherine's Village*

A SECURE, WELL RESPECTED CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY



WE OFFER BEAUTIFUL
INDEPENDENT LIVING CHOICES:

- Garden Homes
- Apartment Homes
- and trusted options for:
- Assisted Living Apartments
- Campbell Cove, a Residential Alzheimer's Facility
- Siena Center, a 24-hour Nursing Center - Current Availability



You can count on outstanding care. We remain Mississippi's best retirement community to be accredited by CARE-CCAC. This mark of quality is achieved by fewer than 1% of retirement communities in America.

*Wondering if St. Catherine's Village
is right for you or your loved one?*

CALL TODAY TO 601-816-0123 TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY.

A subsidiary of St. Dominic Health Services



**Carrollton
-Mississippi-**

*Where the
Past is
Present*

Historic Pilgrimage & Pioneer Day Festival

- Tour Historic Homes, Churches & More
- Genealogy Expo
- Traditional Arts & Crafts
- Educational Exhibits
- Art Exhibits

Oct. 3-4, 2014

Pilgrimage

CarrolltonMsTours
@gmail.com
662-392-4810

For More Information:

VisitCarrolltonMs.com

Pioneer Day Festival

cwhitfield@gmail.com
662-392-6194